

Different perspective

Future college student offers her observations on the big time

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Coaching dispute

Football players to meet with athletic director this week

Sports, back page

Baseball disparity

Poor teams watch the rich get richer in the MLB off-season

Sports, back page



High 61°
Low 41°

MUSTANG DAILY

Tuesday

December 1, 1998

CALIFORNIA POLYTECHNIC STATE UNIVERSITY SAN LUIS OBISPO

Faculty protest Chancellor's visit

Reed fields questions during forum in Cal Poly theater

By Mike Munson
Mustang Daily

Chancellor of the California State University, Charles Reed, was greeted by picketers when he came to address a meeting of the Cal Poly faculty Monday.

The faculty meeting was Reed's last activity on campus after spending a full day talking to students and faculty. He toured classes, observed laboratories and inspected technology unique to the campus. Cal Poly was the last in his tour of all 23 CSU campuses.

As a steady rain fell, faculty and staff members marched outside the Cal Poly Theater carrying signs reading "Strength in Union" and "CSU Unfair." Outside the doors a band sang the lyric "let's make our voices heard" and stressed contracts and union solidarity.

Political science professor Carl Lutrin said that after 28 years of teaching at Cal Poly he has never seen faculty morale so low.

"The faculty are alienated," Lutrin said. "We're here to show Chancellor Reed we don't appreciate his uncompromising positions on faculty issues."

Lutrin also said the hiring of more faculty and the restoration of a strong summer quarter should be one of Reed's priorities. He said those changes would allow students to get through Cal Poly more quickly and graduate on time.

The theater was about half-full of faculty and staff - most with orange signs reading "Fair Contract" resting in their laps - when Reed took the stage. He announced that he would answer five key faculty questions presented to him through the Academic Senate.

When Reed spoke about faculty morale, many of the orange signs in the audience were raised high. He said morale could be higher, but he does not think it is that bad. Reed said Cal Poly professors should be proud and have high morale because of the reputation of their university.

One of the most controversial issues raised during the evening was meritorious pay. According to Reed's definition, meritorious pay is a system of rewarding professors for their teaching, their demonstrated scholar-

see FACULTY, page 2



PICKET LINE: Faculty protested contract negotiations outside a forum with Chancellor Charles B. Reed.

Colin McVey/
Mustang Daily

Japan study prepares for opening trip

By Chris Hoffman
Mustang Daily

Students will have an opportunity to experience the country that created sumo, sushi and Godzilla when Cal Poly's Japan study program kicks off in the 1999 fall quarter.

Participants will spend four weeks studying at Eastern Japan International University in the city of Iwaki, followed by one or two weeks of touring Tokyo and other areas of the country. The trip will conclude with approximately four weeks at Tenri University near the cities of Osaka and Kyoto.

A meeting is scheduled for Thursday at 11 a.m. in building 10, room 200 for new and enrolled students. There is still room for new students to join the Japan study program.

Mechanical engineering junior Michael Horsley is one student who intends to go to the meeting. "I've always

see JAPAN, page 2

Suspect ruled out in Newhouse case

By Kimberly Kaney
Mustang Daily

Police announced Monday that they have eliminated Paul Flores as a suspect in the disappearance of Rachel Newhouse.

Flores has been the subject of attention during the investigation of the disappearance of Kristin Smart, who vanished in May 1996.

Denise Smart, Kristin's mother, said she wouldn't have known that Paul Flores was a part of the Newhouse investigation if she had not seen it on television while in the

see SUSPECT, page 3

Two Poly students come on down to the 'Price is Right'

By Heather Hershman
Mustang Daily

Not one, but two members of the Cal Poly chapter of Alpha Phi Omega were told to "Come on down," shocking the producers of "The Price is Right."

Usually when a group of people goes to see the show, only one member of the group is called down to Contestants' Row. But when about 20 members of the community service fraternity went down to Los Angeles to see "The Price is Right" last month, both David Stromberg, an animal science senior, and Samira Kirpalani, a psychology senior, were contestants and won prizes on the popular game show.

"I don't think it was supposed to happen that way,"

Stromberg said.

"I guess it was a mess-up," Kirpalani commented.

Stromberg won a wine rack, a dining room set and \$500 for guessing the exact amount of the wine rack before going up on stage. Kirpalani won prizes totaling \$4,300, starting with a silverware set she bid on while in Contestants' Row.

"I bet \$750 and it ended up being \$1,470 and I was the highest bid," she said. She went on to win a sofa, a recliner, a love seat, a lamp, a couple of end tables and a stereo.

Not only were the producers puzzled when the two fraternity members were both called, but the host Bob Barker was as well.

see PRICE, page 2



PLEASED: Samira Kirpalani and David Stromberg pose for a photo after winning prizes on "The Price is Right."

courtesy
photo/Mustang
Daily

FACULTY

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ship and their contributions to the community. Reed said ideally 70 to 75 percent of faculty should receive the pay. He said it should be decided by a professor's peers and student input should also be considered.

Many faculty see the issue differently. One professor received standing applause after he said meritorious pay lowers morale by making professors feel like they are under the supervision of the central administration. He said professors are scholars and meritorious pay is a degrading way of judging their work.

Jaime Colome, a biology professor, said his main reason for attending Reed's presentation was to protest meritorious pay.

"This is a lightly veiled attempt to try not to pay half the faculty," Colome said.

Lutrin said Cal Poly faculty pay is 11 percent below the national average. He would like to see that issue addressed first when salaries are considered.

"I think meritorious pay has divided the faculty — I'd like to see pay raises linked to the national average," Lutrin said.

Reed also addressed his vision for the CSU in the next decade and Cal Poly's role as a CSU flagship. He said Cal Poly is special because of its high-cost technology demands. Reed said state funds are limited and Cal Poly must lead the way in acquiring private sector funding. Reed said that although Cal Poly is a technology leader and a CSU flagship, the university must still constantly work to improve education. Reed wants each CSU campus to work on improving the overall product.

"I want to create a culture of quality for CSU," Reed said.

PRICE

continued from page 1

"We were standing in Contestants' Row right next to each other and we had the same shirts on," Kirpalani said. "We looked like twins."

Barker noticed they were both from the same group and commented on it, she said. "He was shocked." Kirpalani and Stromberg were too.

"I was freaking out," she said. "I couldn't believe I got picked. It's really rare that two (from the same group are selected)."

Stromberg was especially astounded when they called his name.

"It was crazy," he said. "I had no idea I was going to get called because Samira was called before me. It was a surprise."

Stromberg and another fraternity member got separated from the rest of the group, which apparently is why both he and Kirpalani were chosen.

"We all got there at different times," he said.

Everyone attending the show waits in line while the producers talk to each person individually. Even so, Kirpalani and Stromberg said they don't know why they were chosen over everyone else.

"Everyone says it's because I'm animal science and Bob Barker likes animals," Stromberg said.

Dina Cadenazci, vice president of Alpha Phi Omega, said she thinks they were both chosen because of the particular way they responded to the questions.

"They were both really peppy," she said.

Kirpalani said she was really talkative in her interview.

"I was trying to act as enthusiastic as I could," she said. "He (the producer) talked to me for a while, but I still didn't think I was going to get picked."

Kirpalani was the second to last person to go up on stage.

"I played Tic-Tac-Toe and I just had to bid on the prices of the prizes," she said. "If I bid right I got an X. I just wanted to win as many Xs as I could."

She said she was really nervous when she was up on stage.

"I couldn't even think straight," she said. "The whole time I was playing I couldn't even remember how to play Tic-Tac-Toe."

She won her game, but just narrowly missed being in the Showcase Showdown.

"I spun the wheel and got 85 cents and the girl after me got 90," she said.

Stromberg didn't make it to the

showcase showdown either, but he nailed the bid to get on stage from Contestants' Row.

"He ended up guessing the exact price," Kirpalani said. "His name got called, he bid, and he got right on."

Neither Stromberg nor Kirpalani have received any prizes yet.

"They deliver them to you," Kirpalani said. "They said we'd get them sometime before April. Furniture takes longer."

Stromberg hasn't yet received his \$500 in the mail, although it appeared as if he got it on stage. "They give it to you on stage and then take it back," he said.

Stromberg said he has visited the show before, but was never selected. "I went once freshman year with the Ski Club," he said.

Some other members of the community service fraternity have also gone to the show in the past. "Two other people from Alpha Phi Omega have gotten on the show before," Cadenazci said. "I guess we're kind of lucky."

Anyone who is selected to go on stage is not allowed to participate in the show again. Kirpalani said she doesn't know if she'd go back to see the show again for that reason, although she did have a good time.

"I already won so there's no chance of me being on the show again," she said.


Stromberg, on the other hand, would like to see the show again in the future.

"It was fun," he said. "I'd go back."

The show with Kirpalani and Stromberg will air Jan. 18 at 10 a.m. on CBS.

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JAPAN

continued from page 1

been interested in the Japanese culture," he said. "I'd like to go experience it first hand."

The quarter-long program is scheduled to run from Sept. 7 to Nov. 22 next year at an estimated cost of \$6,500 per student. Financial aid can be used toward the program. It is open to students in all majors.

Psychology professor David Englund and social sciences professor John McKinstry will instruct and supervise during the trip.

"It's a beautiful country," said Englund. "What you see when you get to Japan is two ends of the spec-

trum. You can still see the old traditions ... and you also see a post-modern society in which many ways makes San Luis Obispo look pretty provincial and pretty backward."

McKinstry said the language barrier won't be a problem for students who want to take part in the program. "Language shouldn't be a major issue. Everybody who goes there will learn some survival Japanese."

Students will be able to enroll in 12 to 15 units of Cal Poly credit. About nine courses are scheduled to be offered, including introductory sociology, human development and a variety of social science classes such as Social Organization of Modern Japan and Global Ethnic Relations.

Internships will also be available,

primarily for psychology and child development majors, which allow students to work with Japanese schools, businesses and social welfare agencies, including care centers for orphans and the elderly.

"These were really wonderful internships last time," said Englund, who took a group of students to Japan 10 years ago. "I think that was really the highlight of the program. We have a lot to learn from the Japanese about social services, education and business."

The Japan study program got its start from Englund's last trip and from a five-week trip McKinstry took with students in Summer 1996. McKinstry admits his last trip to Japan had too much unstructured time, but has

worked to correct the problem for next fall's program.

"We learned a lot from that. We relied too much on chance and spontaneity. But it worked out," he said.

Social sciences senior Kari Tomooka was one of the students who went with McKinstry's group in 1996. "I thought it was a great experience," she said.

The new program's structure is based on Cal Poly's Thailand spring quarter study.

"We started and got the Thai study program well-established," said social science chairman Harold Kerbo, who coordinates Cal Poly's Asian programs. "We've done that five years now; we know what we're doing. Now our next step is to get more

established in the Japan program." Kerbo hopes the program will be an annual event.

Thirty-two spaces are available for the Japan study on a first-come, first-served basis, but Englund said if student interest is low, only 16 students will go, accompanied by one professor.

Englund suggests interested students who are unable to attend the meeting contact him or McKinstry for further details.

"I think every student should have a foreign experience," said McKinstry. "It's a wonderful time of life to learn ... other people do things different ways. You can't get more cultural deviation from us than you can in Japan."

SUSPECT

continued from page 1

Los Angeles area. Los Angeles television stations have been flashing a photograph of Paul Flores' face on news casts while talking about the disappearance of Newhouse.

"No one can say if these cases are the same because no one knows what happened to Kristin and no one knows what happened to Rachel," Denise Smart said.

Denise Smart said that she is pleased to hear that the police sought outside assistance quickly in Newhouse's case. She was also pleased to hear that Cal Poly informed the parents quickly this time.

"Unfortunate that we have to learn from history so quickly," she said.

Cal Poly officials were hesitant to send letters out to parents to inform them of Kristin Smart's disappearance, according to Denise Smart. She said Cal Poly needs to recognize there is no such thing as too much security.

"Why not learn from what happened? Don't deny the importance of their loss."

Denise Smart pointed out that there are many security measures Cal Poly should continue to look into.

"Video cameras are in the bookstore to watch for stolen books, but there are none to protect students in the dorms," Denise Smart said.

Newhouse was last seen at Tortilla Flats Nov. 12 between 10 and 12 p.m. Newhouse has light brown hair and brown eyes. She was wearing black pants, a blue blouse and black platform shoes.

There is a \$60,000 reward for information leading to an arrest in this case. People wishing to provide information can call the San Luis Obispo Police Department Tip Line at (800) 225-0300.

The Smart family had not spoken with Newhouse's family at time of press Monday.

"You try so hard not to associate with people like us because it validates a tragedy," Denise Smart said. "With quick reaction we hope there is a different outcome in this case."

"You try so hard not to associate with people like us because it validates a tragedy. ... With quick reaction we hope there is a different outcome in this case."

— Denise Smart

mother of missing Cal Poly student Kristin Smart

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College ... through the eyes of a teenager

College. Not a very big word, yet it seems to mean so much in a person's life. My big sister Jamie has been away at college for three-and-a-half years now. She left home when I was 10.

Over time my perspective of what college really is has changed quite a bit. At first I thought that college was only a slightly nicer establishment than prison. I pictured people going to school every day and sitting in classes that seemed to never end while dreaming of lost freedom. I imagined having to stay up until all hours of the night to cram for multiple tests or to write a 100 page essay on the most boring topic known to man. I assumed that with being in college came the blessing of having absolutely no life and working your brains out every spare minute just to save enough money for rent.



**Jody
Rudolph**

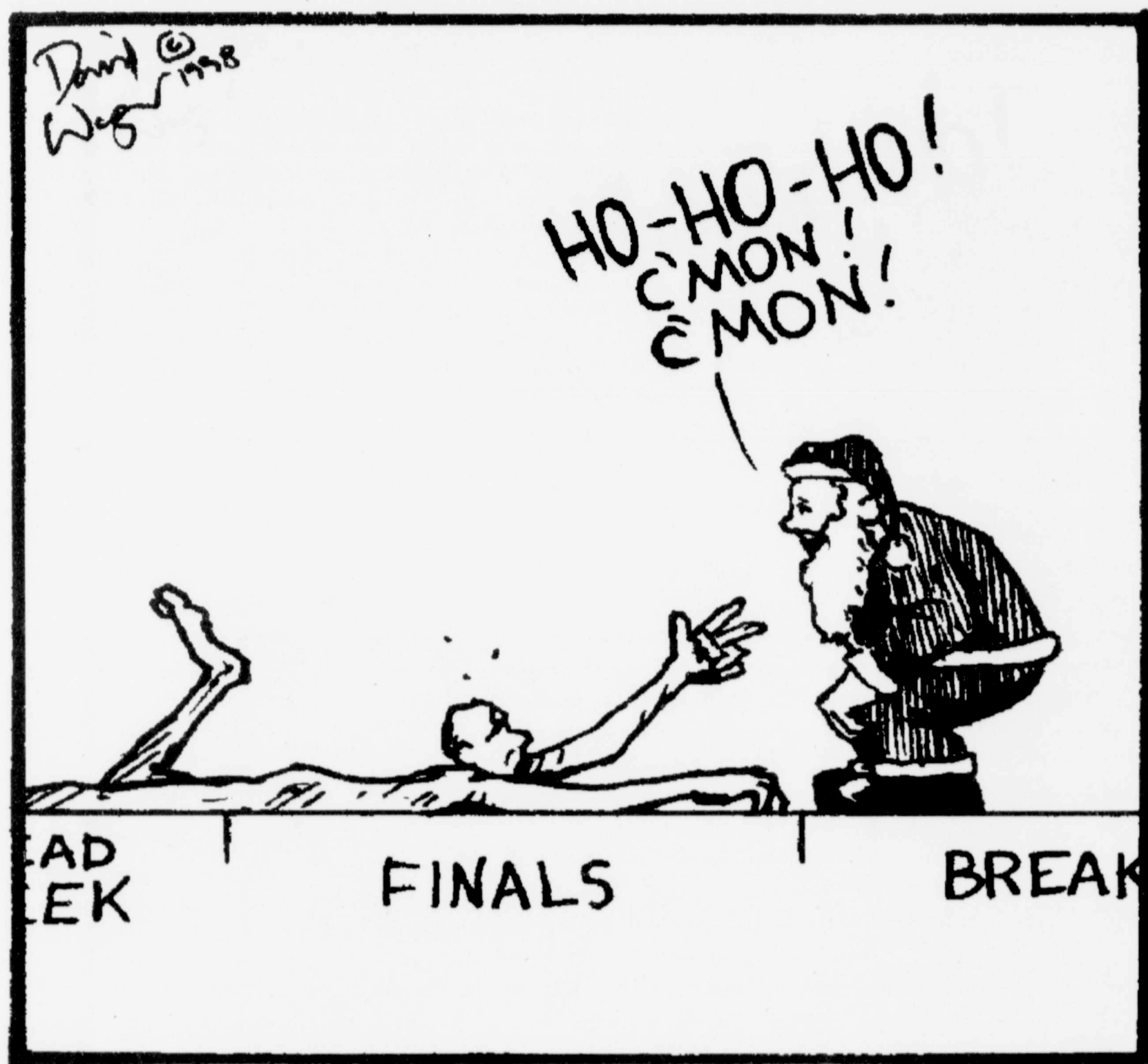
I hope to God my new perspective is more accurate. I have come to see that college is a world of great freedom. I

still hear horror stories from my sister of how she was up until 5 a.m. studying for a midterm, but when she tells me she started studying at three, my sympathy level drops. I now think that while you're in college, you experience some of the best times in your life: Staying out until late at night (or should I say until early in the morning) with your friends whenever you feel like it; the ability to try different jobs and live in new apartments; being able to live with your friends and always having someone to talk to; and doing whatever you want while never having to answer to Mom. I see now that college teaches people to live on their own, and prepares them for what lies ahead. Most of all, I think college gives everyone independence, something a 13-year-old like me longs for.

But maybe I'm wrong. Maybe college isn't like this at all. Maybe I was right a few years ago when I thought college was a prison. I don't know. But I do know that I hear so many great stories from Jamie about how much fun she has. When she tells me these stories of all the great times she has, it makes me wonder how college can be anything but great. Don't get me wrong, I'm sure it is also a lot of hard work and has to be taken very seriously, but overall, the whole experience of college amazes me. I'm not even in high school yet, but I can't wait until I get to go away to school like my older sister did.

So when you have to stay up until all hours of the night to write a paper, or you wake up catatonic for a 7 a.m. class and wish you could just go home, think of all the great times you have that make it worthwhile. Remember how lucky you are that you don't have to do whatever your mom tells you.

Jody Rudolph is Jamie Rudolph's precocious little sister. She may have a column of her own some day.



How do you cope with the rain and cold weather?



◀ "I hide out in my room. Depending on my mood, I sometimes go running. It's not depressing for me though."

Heather Hoff
materials engineering
sophomore



◀ "I just cover up."

Dalia Rodriguez
business sophomore



◀ "Stay inside."

Moses Perez
kinesiology senior



◀ "I get some hot chocolate and watch a movie."

Andrew Black
city and regional planning
freshman



◀ "I bundle up and enjoy it."

Erin Ullrich
general engineering
freshman



◀ "I wear no underwear, so the friction keeps me warm."

Behrang Pakzad
industrial technology
senior

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"I should go to dentist school for as many teeth as I have to pull."

Students are part of the game

I have been a loyal follower of the Cal Poly men's basketball team since I was a Cal Poly freshman in 1996. I have attended all but two of the team's home games in the two seasons that I have been here. And I have traveled to away games against UC Santa Barbara and Long Beach State as well.

The men's basketball games are some of the truly entertaining events of the school year. They are a time to get together with as many friends as possible and to have a great time while supporting your school basketball team. The highlight of many students' game experience is to catch that elusive "3" shirt or get a chance to make a half-court shot at half-time for free Taco Bell for a year. I believe these extra activities are just one element that make the Cal Poly games so fun to attend.

We all know the huge difference between college sports and professional sports is school spirit. The whole atmosphere of a college game of any sport has this certain aura surrounding it. The emotions run high in the players — knowing they are representing the school they take pride in. The student fans of college games add so much more to the whole experience because they not only cheer their team but also unite everyone on the floor and in the stands.

How many times have you seen students in the stands with their school colors painted on their faces or signs depicting the rivalry with the opposing team? These are examples of the school spirit brought to games by the student fans and that is why students bring the excitement to a

collegiate basketball game.

As I walked up to the ticket office the other day to pick up my tickets to the first men's basketball home game of the season, I was delighted when the person at the window told me this year students could pick up as many as eight tickets. If the game was not sold out then tickets would go on sale to the general public a few hours before game time.

Last year only a certain number of student tickets were available and student seating was limited to less than half of the gym's bleachers. So while all the students jammed into a tiny section of seats available to them, the general public enjoyed a section of bleachers that was half-empty. This new system encouraged me. It seemed like Cal Poly was promoting student involvement at the game to bring that college atmosphere back to Mott Gym.

Then, five friends and I attended the season opener and found that everything I had imagined about more student involvement at the game was a false image. Students still had their roped-off section of seating, which actually has decreased in size from previous years due to the smaller seating capacity of the new remodeled gym. Moving the band into the student section further decreased the number of seats for the student fans. The general public on the other hand still had more than enough room on the side of bleachers still designated for their seating only.

The activities during half-time and time-outs also displayed this lack of student appreciation at the games. The majority of the famous "3" shirts thrown to

the crowd by the cheerleaders found their way into the general public side of the bleachers, which might be due to the fact they were the paying customers since students get their tickets for free.

The half-time activities such as the shootout for free Taco Bell was performed mainly by little kids and adults from the general public seating section, once again showing a lack of opportunity for students to get involved in the basketball game.

Cal Poly athletics have done a lot to take away from the collegiate experience of a basketball game while putting forth the image to the students that they are giving us the opportunity to have an entire student crowd. We still have a great time at the basketball games and show our support of the school and the team, but Cal Poly needs to think about what collegiate sports are all about. The student fans are what make college basketball so exciting and spirited. Take that away from Cal Poly games and you may just be left with a basketball game being played by five players on the floor rather than an entire crowd stacked up as the home court advantage against an opposing team.

The students want their chance to get involved during the games. So remember Cal Poly, the students are what make up this university and give excitement and spirit to our athletic contests. Give us our chance to bring that atmosphere into Mott Gym this year and help lead our men's basketball team to an unforgettable season.

Danny Prodoehl is a biology junior.

Americans need to learn more about the world

Editor:

Having just read "The Australian Myth" (Nov. 10), I must say I concur with Louise Attard's assessment of the majority of Americans. Very few of them have any idea what goes on outside of the borders of the U.S. As a Canadian living in the States, I get all kinds of silly queries and dumb comments about life up North. Just yesterday, a man planning to travel to Canada asked me, "Is Ontario near Toronto?" I wanted to tell him, in jest, "No, Ontario is closer to the capital," but he, like most Americans, probably thought Toronto is Canada's capital.

Visitors to Canada from the States are amazed at how much Canadians know about the U.S. Many know all fifty states and capitals, while many Americans can't even name the vice president.

It's almost funny that I read this on Election Day, in Quebec — Canada's only French-speaking majority province. The separatist Parti Quebecois is far ahead in the opinion polls, so it looks like another separation referendum is just around the corner.

Canada is the States' biggest trading partner (over \$1 billion every day between the two). This partner is very near losing one-fourth of its population and a larger portion of its gross national product to a new republic — not to mention what repercussions this event would have on the American economy.

Americans have quite a bit to learn about the rest of the world. The sooner, the better.

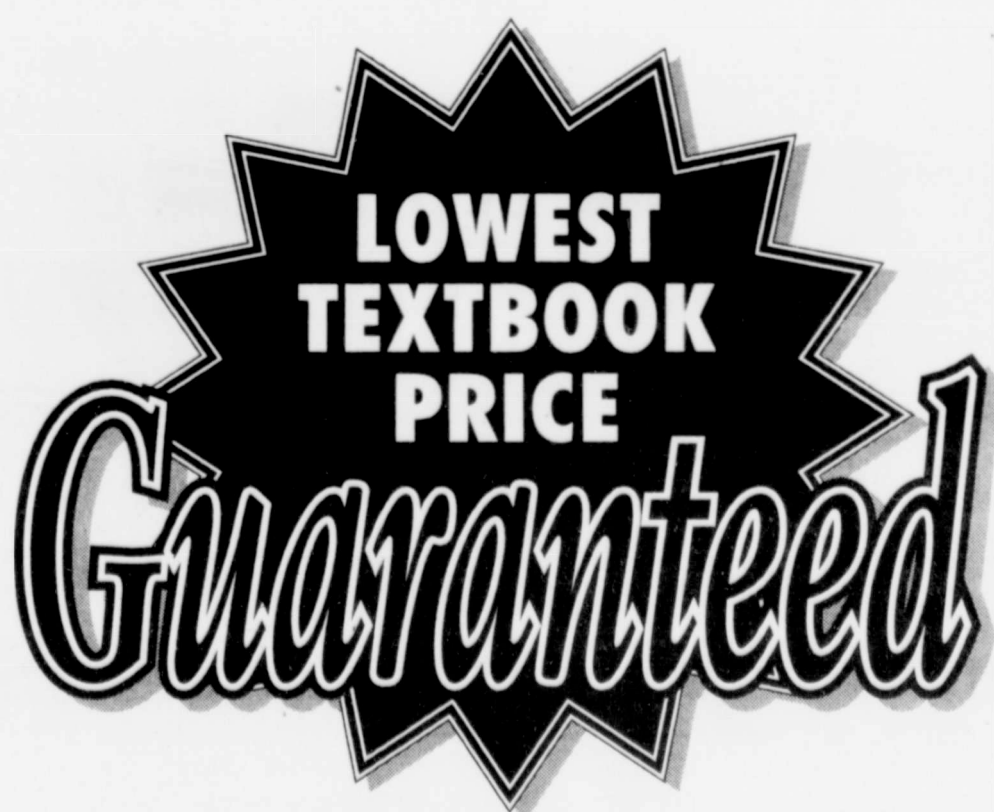
Michael Mello is a communications major at Cal State Stanislaus and the news editor of the college paper, The Signal.

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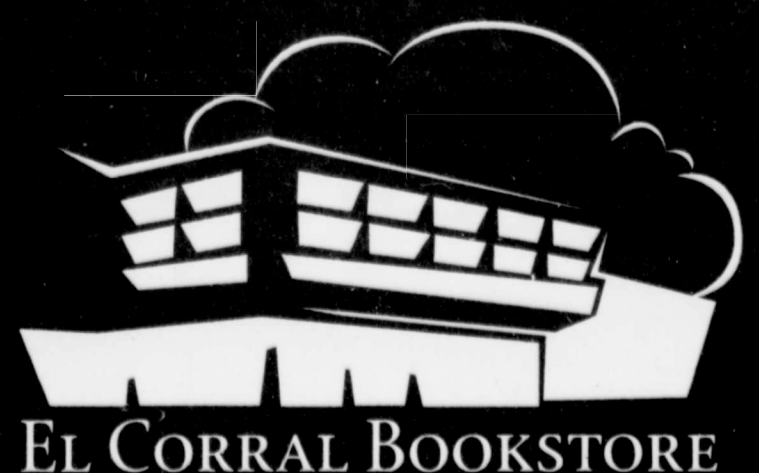
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Gymnast gets protective order against father

HOUSTON (AP) — A month after winning legal independence from her parents, gymnast Dominique Moceanu obtained a protective order against her father Monday, accusing him of stalking her and threatening to harm her friends.

"I am terrified of my father," the 17-year-old Olympic gold medalist says in a court affidavit. "I believe that all of my father's actions are

intended to result in physical harm, bodily injury or assault to me or my friends."

In the affidavit, Moceanu stays a Houston police sergeant informed her several weeks ago that her father was being investigated for attempting to hire someone to kill her coach and a male friend, Brian Huggins.

An attorney for Dumitru Moceanu confirmed Houston police had inves-

tigated her client but said he was not arrested and no charges were filed. There was no answer at Moceanu's home and a message left at his gym was not returned.

Houston police spokesman Robert Hurst said the homicide division conducted an investigation into threats made against "certain parties" involved in Moceanu's earlier efforts to become a legal adult.

Holmgren apologizes for cursing at heckler

GREEN BAY, Wis. (AP) — Speculation over Mike Holmgren's future apparently has gotten to the Green Bay Packers' coach, who apologized on Monday for cursing at a fan who derided him at halftime Sunday.

Holmgren was making his way toward the tunnel in the north end zone at Lambeau Field after his team's uninspired first-half performance against the Philadelphia Eagles when a fan shouted that Holmgren should start thinking about his current job instead of his next one.

Holmgren responded by yelling two expletives at the heckling fan.

On Monday, Holmgren said he was sorry even though he felt the fan,

who didn't use vulgarities himself and was not ejected, had crossed the line.

"I'm embarrassed by it, first of all," Holmgren said. "I have never done that before and I trust I'll never do it again. I fully believe that a fan comes into the stadium and if we're playing poorly, they can say just about anything they want to say."

But, Holmgren said, the fan "in my opinion, crossed the line with me. It was pretty personal, dealing with my family, my future, things ... that to me right now is very sensitive."

The Packers are 8-4 and on the verge of conceding the NFC Central title to the Minnesota Vikings.

"I'm giving it everything I've got,

believe me, in my job right now, for the Packers and for this team," Holmgren said. "I'm sensitive to that, and I reacted. I shouldn't have. I should have just kept walking. I wasn't right in what I did. I apologize to the gentleman."

Jerry Parins, the Packers' chief security officer, said the fan wasn't ejected because his comments weren't vulgar. He speculated the fan was upset that the heavily favored Packers led just 10-6 at halftime in a game they won 24-16.

Holmgren has tried not to talk about his future this year, but the subject keeps coming up because he has a clause in his contract that allows him to leave for a job as both coach and general manager.

Two weeks ago, Packers general manager Ron Wolf estimated there's an 80 percent chance Holmgren will leave Green Bay, where he's 80-41 in seven seasons.

Holmgren insisted his fate isn't affecting his performance.

"My focus is entirely on what we're doing right now and this football team," he said. "Anyone that cares to think differently is wrong."

Wolf said he didn't think the focus on Holmgren's uncertain future was wearing on his coach.

"No, I don't think it is," Wolf said. "This whole affair has been going on since the week of the Super Bowl."

Holmgren failed to quash rumors that week that he was interested in going to Seattle. Then, the escape clause was written into his contract, and he's been dogged by queries about his plans ever since.

The questions first arose last season after he said he'd like to try his hand at running an entire operation, "and I said, 'Yes. Some day,'" Holmgren recounted. "Now, this thing has taken on a life of its own."

Holmgren, who has guided Green Bay to back-to-back Super Bowls, said his players have "done a remarkable job" in not allowing the speculation over his future to fluster them.

"In the feedback I'm getting from players, it's not affecting them at all," Holmgren said. "Guys joke with me about it."

Offensive lineman Marco Rivera says he isn't thinking about it.

"The only thing I worry about is what I got to do to make this team better," he said.

Meanwhile, off-hand remarks by Cleveland Browns president Carmen Policy about his interest in Holmgren could lead to a fine for tampering.

A league official has questioned Policy who, in response to a question at a recent meeting of a civic group, talked of his interest in Holmgren as coach and general manager. Policy has since said the remarks were not meant to be taken literally.

Wolf declined to say if he had or would file a formal complaint with the league.

"I don't think that's anybody's business but ours," he said.

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MEETINGS

continued from page 8

1987 and was a finalist, however, Lyle Setencich was selected.

When Andre Patterson (who replaced Setencich) left to coach in the NFL, Welsh was brought in.

"I'm disappointed (the players) didn't come talk to me," Welsh said. "But I don't know what the agenda is. My whole thing is my door is always open if they have a problem."

Lombardi said McCutcheon will meet with other players throughout the week.

"McCutcheon is listening to us; it's not like he's brushing us off," Lombardi said. "Everyone will be given the opportunity to voice their

"Larry Welsh is our head coach and will be next year as well. If there are constructive comments that come out that he (Welsh) can learn from ... I think it can be a healthy process."

— **John McCutcheon**
athletic director

own opinions. We just all have to be on the same page."

McCutcheon said he will have a better understanding of the situation after talking to all the players.

"We will evaluate whether their (concerns) are credible or not," said McCutcheon. "Larry Welsh is our head coach and will be next year as well. If there are constructive com-

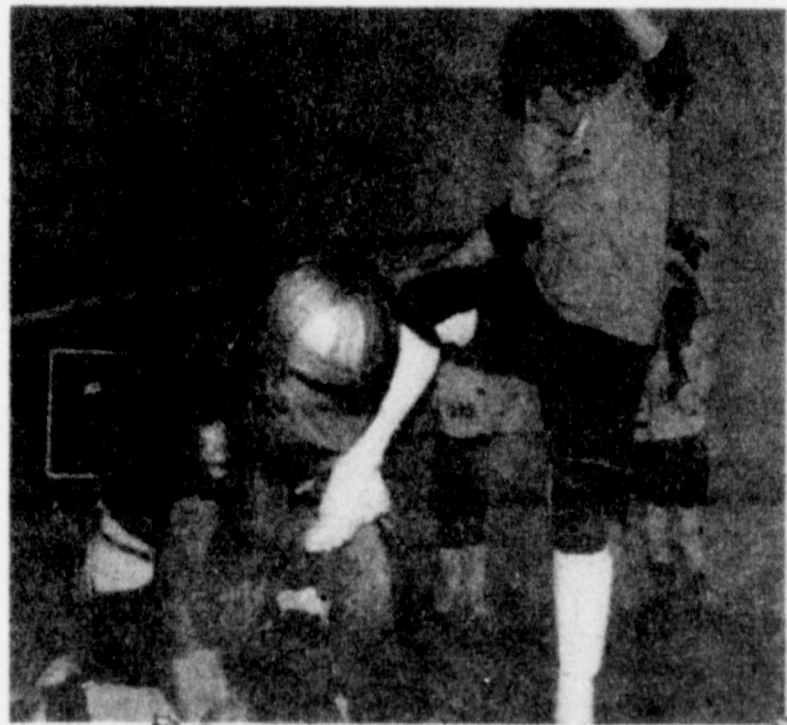
ments that come out that he (Welsh) can learn from and we can learn then I think it can be a healthy process."

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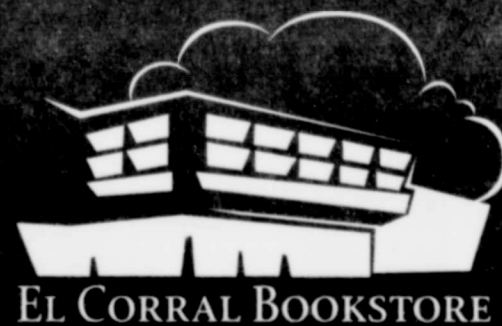
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SPORTS TRIVIA

YESTERDAY'S ANSWER

Drew Bledsoe holds the record for most completions in a single game with 45 against the Vikings.

Congrats Dan Seaman!

TODAY'S QUESTION

Who has thrown the only perfect game in World Series history?

Please submit answer to: jnolan@polymail.calpoly.edu Please include your name. The first correct answer received via e-mail will be printed in the next issue of the paper.

SCHEDULE

THURSDAY

° Men's basketball vs. Fresno Pacific at 7 p.m. in Mott Gym

° Swimming at Long Beach State at 9 a.m. at Speedo Invitational

FRIDAY

° Wrestling at Las Vegas Tournament at 10 a.m.

SATURDAY

° Women's basketball vs. San Diego at 6 p.m. in Mott Gym

BRIEFS

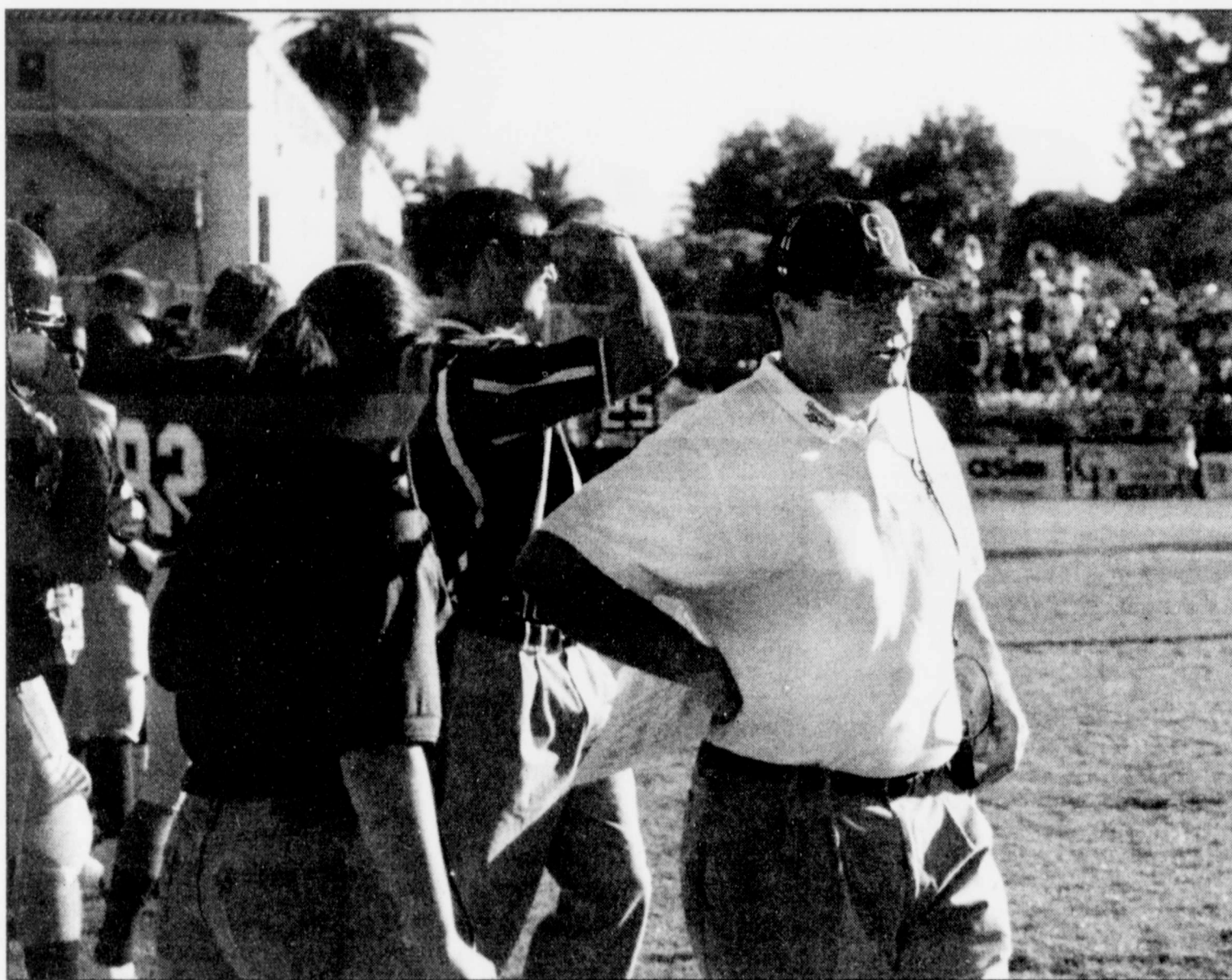
SAN DIEGO (AP) — Steve Finley, one of the top outfielders remaining on the free agent market, said he's getting attractive offers from other clubs and isn't so sure he'll remain with the San Diego Padres.

The Padres have made Finley an offer, and Finley's agent, Tommy Tanzer, made a counteroffer.

But Finley says he's intrigued by his first foray into free agency and doesn't want to turn down a multi-year offer from another club just because he's waiting on the Padres.

"We are much closer with other clubs than we are with the Padres," Finley said last weekend.

Finley said he understands the Padres have been slowed in their free agent pursuit because they were consumed not only with making it to the World Series, but campaigning for a new downtown ballpark which was passed by the voters on Nov. 3. The club's top priority is trying to re-sign ace Kevin Brown, who's attracting plenty of attention elsewhere.



Dawn Kalmar/Mustang Daily

ON THE HOT SEAT: Head coach Larry Welsh and the direction of the football program are topics of concern among seniors. Welsh led the Mustangs to a 3-8 season after finishing 10-1 in his first year.

McCutcheon to meet with football players individually

Seniors: athletic director is listening to their concerns

By Jose Garcia
Mustang Daily

Athletic Director John McCutcheon met with two senior football players, Keith Harter and James Lombardi, yesterday to talk about specific concerns they have regarding head coach Larry Welsh.

Players, at this point, have decided not to go on record with the issues they are discussing with McCutcheon. However, Harter has said the main concern is the lack of communication between Welsh and his players.

It was originally planned that a group of seniors would meet with McCutcheon as a group, but the

athletic director has decided to meet with each individual player.

"I always like to meet with the student athletes individually because I want to hear what's in that person's mind," McCutcheon said. "Typically when you meet as a group there may be a situation where one or two of them have some ideas and the other ones are going along with that. This way we get to explore each individual's level of concerns."

McCutcheon wouldn't comment on what was specifically said and who he spoke to since that is part of his open door policy.

"I know some people think it, but we're not trying to get revenge for a losing season."

—James Lombardi
senior defensive back

"We just want to convey a concern for the program for the underclassmen, our close friends," said Lombardi, who was a starting defensive back. "I know some people think it, but we're not trying to get revenge for a losing season."

The football team is coming off their worst year, 3-8, since 1967 after going 10-1 in 1997.

Welsh, who just completed his second year, was hired as head coach after 18 successful years at Atascadero High School. He had originally applied for the job in

see MEETINGS, page 7

Diamondbacks make Johnson baseball's highest-paid pitcher

PHOENIX (AP) — The Arizona Diamondbacks, in the spectacular final act of their ambitious offseason pursuit of free agents, agreed Monday to a \$52.4 million, four-year contract with Randy Johnson.

With an average salary of \$13.1 million per season, Johnson becomes the game's highest-paid pitcher and the second-highest paid player behind Mo Vaughn, who agreed last week to an \$80 million, six-year contract with Anaheim that averages \$13.33 million.

The addition of one of the game's most feared pitchers, coupled with last week's signings of Todd Stottlemyre and Armando Reynoso,

gives the second-year expansion club one of the game's most formidable rotations.

"I'm not going to call us a contender, but what I'm hearing from people in baseball is that our starting rotation could be one of the top two or three in baseball," Diamondbacks owner Jerry Colangelo said.

Johnson, who lives in nearby Paradise Valley, chose the Diamondbacks over the Anaheim Angels, Los Angeles Dodgers and Texas Rangers because he wants to play close to home and he thinks Arizona is making moves to quickly become a contender.

"We tried to weigh all the factors

— how competitive the team would be in the future, where his family would be comfortable," said Johnson's agent Barry Meister. "Money was a non-factor because everything was pretty comparable. He made the decision late, late, late last night, slept on it, still felt that way in the morning, and we called the other clubs."

Johnson, 35, will be pushing 40 when the contract expires, but the Diamondbacks had to agree to four years to land the Big Unit.

"The marketplace dictates what you need to do, and the fact is that was what the market was for Randy," Colangelo said. "To play the game, you have to accept the risk."

MLB off-season means rich get richer and poor get funnier

The baseball off-season is upon us and it's time to watch the dollars furiously exchange between rich players and richer owners.

It's also a good time to laugh at the poor teams who can't afford to re-sign their mediocre players.

The Pirates, Brewers, Reds and Twins are just some of the consistently lousy teams who get screwed by the current salary structure in Major League Baseball.

Okay, don't get me wrong. I'm all for fair busi-

ness where the fittest survive and the unfit fall by the wayside. After all, that's what America's all about. But, when the Kansas City Royals can't re-sign Jose Offerman, there's a problem.

Offerman signed with the Red Sox for four years, \$26 million which begs the question, "Did the Red Sox give him a million dollars per error?"

While contending teams will acknowledge the acquisition, perhaps laugh, and move on, the Royals are devastated. They lost one of their, umm, best players.

Please don't think I'm just picking on the Royals — the Pirates big off-season move was signing Mike Benjamin. Ouch!

The problem is this current situation hurts the integrity of the game.

The Yankees, Braves, Indians and other teams of similar financial status have a monopoly. The superpowers put together lineups that look like an All-Star team and then play Frank's Auto Body's slowpitch softball team (a k a the Florida Marlins). Then, people act surprised when a team wins 114 regular season games.

A simple suggestion would be to steal a page from the NFL's playbook.

No, don't hire officials who can't get a simple coin toss right.

Major League Baseball should adopt revenue sharing with their television money. This would give the less fortunate teams more money to keep their good players.

Then, the owners could wise up and stop paying draft picks multi-million dollar signing bonuses. The bottom line is, yes it would enrage potential top picks and agents, but it would work. Current major leaguers wouldn't object because it wouldn't take away from their salaries, and there is nothing potential top picks could do. Are they going to get a nine-to-five job instead of playing ball, yeah right.

And don't tell me they'd threaten to play in Japan. Any kid who watches baseball says, "I want to be a major leaguer some day," not, "I'd love to play ball in America, but Japan would be great too."

The bottom line is if it hadn't been for Big Mac and Slamin' Sammy it would have been a boring season. There needs to be competitive divisional races and there is a quick fix. Spread the wealth.



Joe Nolan